

among tailors, clothiers, hatters, printers, weavers, hosiery workers and shipwrights, they show that, while it is historically correct to associate any general expansion of workmen's combinations with the great changes in industry that massed them in factories, trade clubs would anyhow have been a feature of English industry Clubs, however, of a wholly different character, representing as they did an industrial society

"divided vertically, trade by trade, instead of horizontally between employers and wage-earners "

Modern Trade Unionism came into being with the acceptance by government of the new economic doctrine of free competition, which found its fullest expression in the legislation of 1799 and 1800 expressly penalising all combinations The word Trade Union does not occur till well into the nineteenth century

"It is in leading articles of 1830-4 that we first come upon references to some great Power of Darkness vaguely described as <The Trades Union">

Here, the contemporary emphasis is on the *the*, The Trades Union was the ideal of the revolutionary period In its ferment of ideas, Robert Owen of course played a leading part Of Owen, and of the "jumble of Communist aims and ordinary Trade Union aspirations" which, as a mixed heritage of good and evil, he left behind him, a most vivid picture is given—

"In short, the Socialism of Owen led him to propose a practical scheme which was not even Socialistic, and which, if it could possibly have been carried out, would have simply arbitrarily redistributed the capital of the country without altering or

superseding the capitalist system in the least
"All this will be so obvious to those who
comprehend our
capitalist system that they will have difficulty in
believing that
it could have escaped so clever a man and so
experienced and
successful a capitalist as Owen How far he made it
a rule to
deliberately shut his eyes to the difficulties that
met him, from
a burning conviction that any change was better
than leaving